

MINNEAPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU POLICY # 3 - 5
OPEN FLAME and BARBEQUE GRILLS on BALCONIES and PATIOS of
MULTI-UNIT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

Original Issue 8-8-1991 Last Revision 5-1-07 Page 1 of 1

ISSUE:

Control the types and locations of barbeque grills and other open flame devices on or near multi-unit residential buildings.

CODE REQUIREMENTS:

The body of the fire code is silent on the use of barbeque grills. Appendix H has criteria that may be used or adopted. Appendix H has not been adopted by the City of Minneapolis.

PROBLEM:

The requirements in appendix H are considered too restrictive and not considered practical.

(Note: MFD Policy #3-1 addresses recreational fires.)

ACCEPTABLE MEANS of COMPLIANCE:

PROHIBITED:

Open flame, fire pits, fire places, chimineas and propane (LP) fueled grills with tanks greater than one (1) pound capacity are not allowed on balconies, roofs or within 15 feet of the exterior of multi-unit residential buildings. Ashes and hot coals are not to be stored in combustible receptacles or within 10 feet of combustible materials or combustible construction. Green treated and fire retardant treated wood are considered combustible.

Grills are not to be used on balconies of combustible construction unless the underside of the balconies are protected by fire sprinklers.

ACCEPTABLE:

Charcoal, electric, natural gas and one (1) pound propane (LP) grills in good condition are allowed when securely mounted to the deck to prevent tipping. Grills are to be located at least 18 inches from noncombustible building walls and 10 feet from combustible walls or materials and are not to be located on balconies of combustible construction.